

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Cradle Coast Young Professionals Network boosted by grant

The Cradle Coast Young Professionals Network has been supported by a grant.

The Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania has secured a \$10,000 grant for the Network through the Commonwealth Attorney-General Department's Regional Innovations Program for Legal Services.

Director of Legal Aid Norman Reaburn said today the Commission really wanted to support the Cradle Coast Young Professionals Network as it knows from its own experience how valuable a role the Network can play in helping to connect and support young people in the North-West region.

"The Network provides a vital social outlet and helps to increase the level of services available to young people," he said.

Network chairman Stephen Karpeles thanked the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania for their support with the funds being earmarked for key marketing and engagement strategies.

"The Commission's support is invaluable towards helping the Network build on key initiatives outlined in our strategic plan," Mr Karpeles said.

"It comes at a crucial time too with recent research from the Institute for Regional Development (IRD) indicating more than half of our young professionals plan to leave the region in the next five years.

"With the help of organisations such as the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania we see the Network helping to arrest these figures by offering activities and events which support, entertain and connect the Coast's young professionals."

The Network was established in November 2006 to provide an opportunity for young people from across the Cradle Coast region to connect, learn, develop and socialise. Since its inception it has attracted around 200 members and held various social activities.

A one-day workshop, the Cradle Coast Young Professionals Network's Conference and Summit, *Plugging In – Should I Stay or Should I Go Now?* is being held today in Burnie.

*To arrange an interview with either Stephen Karpeles or Norman Reaburn contact
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